lion Affairs. AND NEW YORK PRESS.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1916.

DAILY, Per Month
DAILY, Per Year
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If our friends toke favor us tellh manuscrip and dilustrations for publication wish to be rejected exticles returned they must in a base send stamps for that purpose.

TELEPHONE, BREKMAN 1100.

The Note and Its Postseripts. Secretary Lansing's successive ex planations of the President's note to the belligerents ought not to have been necessary. The purpose of the

communication should have been ap

parent in the document itself. The note itself was followed the semi-official explanation that it had no connection with the recent German overtures and had been contemplated and substantially framed at least three weeks ago. This interval of priority of conception grew to six weeks in the later semi-official statements of vesterday afternoon. The attempt to differentiate was manifestly an afterthought, inspired by the reports of more or less enthusiastic approval of the President's move expressed by people in and around the German Embassy. This explanation is unfortunate: for it is a fact while such a step in the direction of peace would have been so weeks ago as to have been regarded by the Allies as obtrusive, events and the change in the moral situa-

Then came the amazing declaration from the Department of State that the note was not a peace note but the Administration had been moved to utterance because the situation for neutrals was becoming increasingly critical and this nation was being drawn rapidly toward the verge of war. The effect of Mr. Lansing's first explanation was immediate and deplorable in its stimulus to public apprehension and its widespread destruction of values.

tion have moved so rapidly since then

psychologic moment for the proper

exercise of peutral influence.

Therefore a few hours later in the day we had from Mr. LANSING a second explanation explaining his first explanation of the President's note. The Secretary in his second or supplemental explanation deplored the fact that his first explanation had been subjected to various construcns he had not meant to convey He declared that the United States was not considering any change in its policy of neutrality; and he added the statement that it might be neces sary to send to the belligerent Powers a supplementary communication explaining that nothing bellicose was intended in the statement of the original note that the invasion of neutral rights was making the situation "lutolerable" in this country.

What further explanations of explanations may be put forth before this haper reaches its readers we canpot undertake to predict. We are sure, however, that in all the archives of diplomatic correspondence there cannot be found a more extraordinary

and bemuddling process. The sequence would be ludicrous in the extreme if the interests involved

were not so tremendous. For its part THE SUN is content to allow the original note to speak for itself without regard to the subsequent explanations and explanations of explanations. We commend the main intent of the President to emphasize and accelerate the obvious tendency of the present situation toward the consideration of terms which may result in a satisfactory and lasting peace. We believe that in choosing this time for such initiative as is within his power he has chosen well. We are glad to stand with him in his proposals, barring that which seems to indicate a willingness to abandon the traditional American policy.

timed and laudable that helps to of Nicaragua, of Santo Domingo, of bring to the knowledge of the great Costa Rica, of Panama, of Colombia, mass of the German people the ac- of Venezuela, and so on down to the tual truth about the situation and jumping off place of Pan-American the prospects of the psuedo-national cause for which they have made such avoiding the fact that the United fearful sacrifices; truth evidently already patent to the Germans Monroe Doctrine and preserve intact

higher up. Let there be light in Germany and there may be a peace on terms honorable to Germany because they are just to the innocent victims of aggression and right to the vision of the world's moral sense.

#### The Boy's Last Chance for Adventure Gome.

indian is the dead Indian," will find ready, and even eager, to cooperate in fore you. It is difficult to my how much census taker last summer showed at

nsolation in the report just issued by Caro SELLS, Commissioner of In-

Like most good men on a job Com Issioner SELLS is an enthusiast. He sald some time ago that the Indian would yet help us solve the mea problem, and he furnishes a proof in his report. The Indians' live stock this year is worth \$30,000,000, which is a gain of \$8,000,000 in four years. They are going "back to the land" in preportionally greater numbers than the white man; for in five years the real farmers have increased by more than 6,000 and their area of culti vated land has doubled.

The Indian has turned his back or the medicine man and is listening to the advice of the white man's doctor. He has taken part in a "Save the Bubles" campaign and has so far taken up the open air treatment for tuberculosis, which was exacting a heavy toll from the red men, that the death from this disease has dropped 15 per cent. in the past year. He is increasing so rapidly in numbers that his people is no longer spoken of as a "vanishing race." But it will be sad news to the

rouths of the land to know that the Indian is not likely to be seen any more in the Wild West shows. His thrilling charge upon the ploquer caravan and the desperate fight with troops of cavalry go into limbo with ELIZA crossing the ice. He may not even be seen in the movies. Such exhibitions are "neither educational nor conductve to the formation of habits of industry and thrift." The Indians are giving up their blankets, eagle feathers and tomahawks and are wearing white men's clothes. They are becoming religious too; Commis sioner Sills seems proud to report that 40 per cent. more were churchgoers this year than last.

There is apparently no longer any chance for the small boy to hunt for red men's scalps. This adventure is as much lost to his life as piracy or treasure hunting in the South Seas. There is nothing left for him but to stick to his Sunday school.

Consider What This Pledge Means Mr. Wilson may not be proposing peace, he may not be proposing mediation, he may not be interposing his hand or his head between the belligerents who are fighting this European war, he may not be suiting his acts to Germany's present desires—but as to make the present seem the the fact remains that he is not only proposing something which no President of the United States ever before proposed, but also pledging this naion to something which no President of the United States has the right or the power to pledge.

That something is the annihilation of the Monroe Doctrine, which has governed the policy of the republic for almost one century of the repub-He's existence.

Mr. Wilson speaks with feeling of the interests of the United States as war waged for European politics.

There is no other interest of the United States of such transcendent importance as that which lies behind the traditional refusal of our Government to mix in the political affairs of the European nations and its traditional determination, so often and in so many forms declared, to permit no European interference with the destinies of the republics of North, Central and South America, no extension of European political influence in the Western Hemisphere.

We are not discussing the merits

of the Monroe Doctrine or now exam-

ining its health to see if it is senile, moribund, fit for no further progress except a journey to the last resting place of obsolete and superseded national policies. We merely call attention to the outstanding fact that the proposal and pledge which occur In the course of President Wilson's hope of American civilization and humanity to see peace restored on a lasting basis would incidentally send the enactment consequently must be the Monroe Doctrine straight to the tomb. This is not to be dismissed as tions are those of a revolutionary change with practical consequences immeasurable. It means not only the European politics, but also the absowe have maintained against all comers with regard to the American republies south of our border. The participation of the United States in European guarantees inevitably means the entering of the European Powers into the affairs of the Western Hemisphere wherein we have assumed and exercised an exclusive function. Specifically, it means European coopera tion and tutelage in the affairs of We hold that every effort is well Mexico, of Guatemala, of Honduras, policy at Cape Horn. There is no States cannot abolish one half of the

> the other half. Here is President Wilson's pro-

posal and his pledge: "In the measures to be taken to secure the future peace of the world the visiting the Metropolitan Museum people and Government of the United more often." At the time the speaker, States are as vitally and as directly Mr. Louis WEINBERG, was lecturing interested as the Governments now at on paintings in the Altman collection war. Their interest, moreover, in the and he went on to say: means to be adopted to relieve the Those kind souls who wept over smaller and weaker peoples of the world from the theatre pecket your money the woes of poor Lo and who bit- of the peril of wrong and violence is as take the car to the museum and enjo terly resented the criticism of the quick and ardent as that of any other the asthetic and intellectual feast of bluff army officer that "the only good people or Government. They stand million dollar collection spread out be-

the accomplishment of these ends, when the war is over, with every influence and resource at their command."

In this passage, as the World justly remarks. "the President pledges the when thousands throng the movies cooperation of the United States" in about 300 persons visit the museum the enforcement of future guarantees The drop in attendance at the insti of the peace of the world and the tution was 800,000 last year. integrity of the small and weak nations of Europe. It cannot be made what is wrong, though it is not easy too clear that whether this is or is to put the trouble into words. The policy, it is a departure involving not and sees no reason for acquiring it. only our participation in the control The average person has, however, a of the destines of Belgium and Ser- slight natural interest in some form bla and Rumania, but also the par- of art. He is "fond of" pictures, ticipation of Great Britain and Germany and Russia and France and beautiful designs and colors in tapes Italy in the control of the destinies tries, rugs, on china or wrought from of Mexico, of the Central American precious stones. This native liking States, of Venezuela: why not even is indulged a little but cannot go of Cuba?

For the Monroe Doctrine, thus tive and the Legislature, has officially he toll for his very pleasures too? declared the Monroe Doctrine to be limited by this declaration:

"Nothing contained in this Convention shall be so construed as to require the United States of America to depart from its traditional policy of not entering upon, interfering with, or entangling itself in the political questions or internal administration of any foreign State, nor shall anything contained in the said Convention be so construed as to require the relinquishment, by the tional attitude toward purely American questions."

As the American historian of the first Peace Conference at The Hague, himself one of the American delegates, well said: "Not even in the supposed interest of universal peace would the American people have sanctioned for one moment an abandonment or the slightest infraction of a policy which appeals to them as being founded, not only upon legitimate national desires and requirements, but upon the highest interests of peace and progress throughout the world." And the general conventions both of the first Conference at The Hague in 1900 and of the second in 1907 were ratified by the Senate of the United States with this broad and significant reservation specifically recorded as part of the contract.

President Wilson can, if he sees fit, propose the relinquishment of the Monroe Doctrine as the traditional policy of the United States by negottating with European countries new treaties-effecting the entry of this Government into political enconversely admitting European Powers into political engagements of neutral Power in relation to the purely American concern. The Senchooses, validate such proposed trearatification

> But until that has been done the Monroe Doctrine stands as our dethan there is in this newspaper or in day afternoon. the executive offices of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

#### Running the Town's Transportation System.

Comptroller PRENDERGAST and Presimen look upon the activities of the Department of Health with regard to the at the polls. transportation problem as unfortunate. Mr. PRENDERGAST does not | paper headling. eloquent expression of the natural think the new regulations can be enforced; Mr. Downing holds that their provisions are self-contradictory, and

ineffective. Because of the irritation aroused a matter of academic interest; its among citizens generally over the inbearings on our international rela- adequacy of the facilities for carrying passengers about town. any promise of relief, no matter whence it comes, is eagerly received, and the great utter abandonment of our attitude of power entrusted to the Health Dealoofness from the complications of partment has encouraged the hope that it might find means to mitigate lute surrender of the position which a situation admittedly irksome and in some details dangerous. It is plain. however, that nothing will be accomplished by ordinances non-enforcable or so worded that one section nullifles another. As Mr. PRENDERGAST IS a Republican and Mr. Downing a Tammany man, the criticisms that they utter may be accepted as non-partisan and non-political.

If the Department of Health is to manage the street, elevated and subsurface railroads of the city it should begin its beneficent control with a comprehensible and clear programme. only in making a bad matter worse.

Tolling for a Reward. A painter, a member of the art de partment of the College of the City of New York, took occasion a few days ago to suggest that people generally "reduce the high cost of living by

"The next time you are turned away

could be saved on the monthly budget use of the museum."

It appears that on Saturday nights,

Every one who reads this know not a desirable departure from past general public lacks art education carvings, music, or admires at sight beyond a certain point, very soon reached: because to progress further blithely swept away in the exuber- in knowledge and appreciation of art ance of emotional rhetoric, is beyond in general or in particular requires the power of President Wilson to hard study, too frequently alone. And annul. The Government of the United why should the man work? he asks States, by the joint action of Execu-himself. He works for a living; shall

Yes! must be the bold answer. To its policy. Our participation in the evade the blunt question is to prace A SYBARITE'S PROGRAMME. Peace Conferences at The flague, and tise a deception which when discovour assent to the conventions there ered will make the man an enemy of framed, were distinctly qualified and all art. Let us tell him the truth, and perhaps he will believe us, and believing us, make the effort which of all strivings in this world is most richly rewarded.

#### Oil in the Philippines.

Following an inspection of the oil He Works there has been evolved a feasible way to install therein drilling United States of America, of its tradi- machinery and other apparatus essential for the development of the deposits. The authorities are now ready to begin operations and to deliver the oil for refining at reasonable cost.

This investigation is a part of the general survey of Philippine mineral lands undertaken by authority of the island Congress, which has under consideration a scheme of conservation through which the resources of the and sober on New Year's eve. while islands may be preserved to the Government. The project takes on particular interest at this time, when many of the privately owned oil fields in this country show signs of exhaustion at a moment when the demand for oil and its derivatives is greater than ever. The difficulties of getting the product of the Philippine fields to market might at one time have prevented the exploitation of the properties, but the steady increase in the price of oil within the last few years has created new conditions.

## A Futtle Essay in Probability.

We violate no confidence when we now happened to be a Republican gagements of European concern and majority in either the Senate or the House the probability is strong that there would ensue a searching legis- has it. lative investigation of the circumstances under which the fact of the President's communication to the belties by the constitutional process of ligerents reached the stock tickers six or seven hours before it reached the newspaper offices.

This investigation would extend not clared policy in international rela- only to the ascertainment of the fact tions, and there is no more power in of a leak but also to its exact locathe White House to extinguish it, or tion. It would cover the questions of pulsory military training. ment of the United States to the connection with the known performguarantee of European boundaries, nnces of the stock market on Wednes-

Candor compels us to add that there is not now a Republican majority in either house of Congress. Consequently there is not likely to be a public scandal.

Several times in the campaign dent Dowling of the Board of Alder- Charles E. Hughes spoke of "America

Buyan praises peace step. News-

They gave me a fryin', but you go on tryin', says Colonel But. Bayan.

"College chess players ready," so a headline on the sports page announces. May the fight be hard and the casual-To relieve the railroad congestion, now

threatening all industries of Detroit, the Ford Motor Company will suspend operations completely to-morrow remain closed until January 3. Fo two thousand employees probably will slowly of all associations be affected by the order, which will mean the quotation is from loss of \$1,470,000 to them in Sone will receive pay during the twelve "We are doing this from a humane Reform" andpoint," said Mr. KLINGENSMITH.— NEW Y

Desputch from Detroit. We trust the 42,000 men hereit of \$1,470,000 in the merry Yuletide will recognize the greater humanity for

which they are sacrificed.

defence.

If the American boy were more of a duliard there would be less room for argument on the proposal to require training for his part in the country

Collegiate education is a business and must be conducted on business principles. Football is the academic The addition of an uncertain element barometer. Consider Princeton's presto the existing confusion would result |ent circumstances: Since 1911 the Tigers have not beaten Yale or Harvard on the gridiron, and now we are told that the university's enrolment is less by sixty than that of last year. Serided sons of Old Nassau must and over Christmas? hope that the academic rulers of their college will see the light and stop giving disproportionate attention to the minor sports of the classroom.

It has cost the lives of millions of men to emphasize the difference between a guarantee and a scrap paper.

The widows and orphans of Europe ealize sadly that the status quo ante can never be restored.

The Census Bureau's estimate of the opulation of large cities will never do for Detroit. That town is credited with only 571,784, whereas a Detroit

least 100,000 more than that. But cen sus officials explain that "these estion the rate o population increase in the past," so De rolt may claim as many as she wis to. This city is figured to have 5,602,-\$41 inhabitants, most of whom seem

The nineteen foot bullanake found in Kaneas is only another exhibit of the growth and vision of that fair State.

be on subway trains all the time.

We have sufficient confidence in the ingenuity of the French to believe the report from the battle line which gives credit to them as having muted the their armies, but we warn them now that if they tell us they have taught

can cities for 1915 shows a progressive average number of killings well up.

Commissioner J. Pluvius continue to maintain his record as the champion of all snow removers.

## Three Cities to Provide His New Year Joy, Excluding Gotham.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: While

hose New Yorkers who are concerned with it are worrying over the problem of how they can contrive to celebrate New Year's eye in the traditional way I would invite them to turn their gaze medical profession in New York city where these things seem to be ordered differently. I know that a certain type fields in the Bundo peninsula in Taya- of New Yorker will throw up his hands has by the Philippine Director of Pub- in holy horror and exclaim, "Perish the thought!" when I point to Philadelphia as a way out of his difficulty, but I mean to do just that.

Think of it! Just at the moment when the flow of liquids must stop here in New York, which happens to be at the very moment when the festivities ought to begin, they open up the flood-gates after a perfectly arid day in Philathereafter until the last galoot cries Hold, enough!"

What a queer situation this tale o wo cities creates: Bold, bad New York, forced by mere law to go to bed early sanctimonious and "slow" Philadelphia starts at midnight to live in the spirit of Della Pex's old song : Give me the night with all its delights.

Others may have the day. In Philadelphia bars are permitted to long as the proprietors see fit, and a great many of the hotel bars are going to stay open all night on that occasion. But I'll to bed about an bour after the big midnight noise, then up at 8 in the morning to view that wonderful | table window in the Bellevue-Stratford. The parade heaves in sight about a and that doctor's bills would make even a is generally all over by noon, just about time to permit me to catch a train for Baltimore, where on the bar of the ancient Rennert a hot Tom and Jerry We violate no confidence when we walts for me. Then I'll try to beat the venture the statement that if there sheppard bill to it at the Washington in time to sin a New Year's punch inclined to think they get big returns in breaking either the law of man or reaon," as an Evening Sun paragrapher New York, December 19.

# THE CITIZEN ARMY.

Military Training for All. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SUS have rend with great interest General Scott's recommendation of an army of 1,500,000 men under a system of comthe only logical solution of our military problem, and he has announced his views in a capable manner. It only R. POWELL him up loyally. NEW YORK, December 22.

#### The Proposal More Than a Hundred Years Old.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sire 1: reference to the discussion on preparedness I should like to quote from a very interesting work in my possession. lished in 1808, "Letters from England Don Manuel Alvarez (Robert Southey) translated from the

Spanish": But the sure and certain way to secur any nation from slarm, as well as from allower to your query "What becomes nanger, is to train every schoolbey to the of the radied billion drinks?" which the leagued with France, even if the im-

The quotation is from a chapter entted Service Advised. Hints for Military newspaper space these days, is NEW YORK, December 20.

## Rear Gates on the Elevated.

least in the rush hours. I observe that or get them from illicit dealers. a guard stands on the tail platform. him to undergo six months military fact his sole duty seems to be to watch a queer scheme for promoting moral about ten more persons to the train and it would save at least ten seconds.

NEW YORK, December 21.

#### A Bad Risk. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SICE What

nsurance company would insure my life, liberty and happiness for this week NEW YORK, December 21.

### Crepuscle-Manhatton. saw the paling winter sky Fade faint and fainter yet And then the light leap like an eye

It somehow seemed a path to strike Within that shadowed bow Made by the sky that darkened, like A vellêd aureole That crowned a hidden goal

But gazing down upon the pave I saw it overflow As with a never ending wave, Resistiess, level, slow fouls caught in undertow

THE DOCTOR'S FEE. What Happened in a Town Where Illness Was Disappearing.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUN-Sir! Th

article in THE SUN entitled "Doctors See Need Now of Fee Raising' will be illuminating to many in this city. Some years ago in a Pennsylvania town, because of the improvement in publi hygiene due to the efforts of the local dical men, acute sickness diminished and the doctors were getting financially ramped. This state of things came to the knowledge of leading citizens, who were astounded and grieved to know the condition of want. The physician with their years of arduous study and application to the highly important matter of managing sick humanity had not fitted themselves for other means of live lihood. But some of them felt that they must get out. The laymen, however, looked on the matter differently: "You brought our children world, have stood by us in all kinds of serious times, you know us better than any one else can, and you have got to stay." A better system of bookceping on the part of the medical men was then adopted, bills were sent out promptly, the people were educated to the common sense idea that a short piece of medical work might be of mor alue to the patient than the labor in a long illness and fees were graduated accordingly, that is, for the work done and according to the means of the patient. The medical practition ers stayed, were comfortably prosperous, and the business man went about his work knowing that he had the best help obtainable if epidem's or accident caused untoward results and conditions It is confidently estimated that the

gives away yearly \$20,000,000 in services to the poor and alleged poor. This sponsible for. It is a question whether ices would have to be raised if the hos men, women and children attending the dispensaries were weeded, and those practitioner of medicine. The older variants in human nature, deplore any scheme of compulsory health insurwholly owned and controlled by the State, with proper representation on its administrative bodies of the medical practitioner, with naturally reasonable empensation to the man refidering medical services and without profit to the State. The objection is made that we will yet be developing pauperism; it will be, however, better than the present largely evil system of dispensarylsm.

New York, December 20

#### A Dissenting View of the Lasses Borne by Doctors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: read with interest the discussion recarding doctors' fees in a recent SUN From what I had heard, I supposed doc from some of the bills presented to the estates of deceased persons I judged lawyer look up with envy.

nothing, about which we are constantly nearing and reading, that is to say their treatment of the poor in hospitals and other charltable institutions, I am eggnogg, feeling that I am not experience which they could get in no and sometimes heavily pay, for their medical services. Business menlarge amounts of money through other men's fallure to pay, and they do not say much about it; they take it as : matter of course in business that there General Scott Commended for Urging shall be losses as well as gains. There is no business, trade or profession that should we think doctors should be especially projected? They lose only by which they profit immensely later Scott deserves great credit for what he has done in this matter. He has seen for which he never gets any return at gregate" of tones. The ancient Hindus The action of the Rederation was all. If business men are making more patorially referred to the second note great surprise to many of those intermoney to-day, they are obliged to spend of the "strong bull" (richabha), to the ested. Very sen or i service surplies more for everything in their business, fourth as "middle" (madhya), to the next belong to Liber or applications, and the remains now for all citizens to back and they are increasing their employees' salaries, to that in the end they are tive musicians nitimately monosyllabized of their needs in these, to them, hard had a few years ago. Doctors do not have large salary rolls to meet every week as do business men.

A BUSINESS MAN. New Your, December 20.

#### THOSE BILLION DRINKS Espriella, Federal Licenses in Dry Maine May Indicate Who Takes Them.

To the Epiton of The Sun-Sic: The answer to your query "What becomes use of arms; boys would desire no better internal revenue bureau shows were amusement, and thus in the course of the consumed during the past fiscal year England might then defr not States drank their share. In six addi-France alone, but the whole continent tional States, with a population of 9,000,000, statewide prohibitory laws and his enemy were filled up. Individuals went into effect on January 1, 1916, yet profit slowly by experience; associations the revenue from Equors for the year more slowly, and governments the most ended June 30, 1916, increased nearly \$25,000,000.

The simple truth about "problidition." titled "Martial Laws of England. Lim- which is filling such a large amount of there is no such thing. There are prohibitory laws, but they are not enforced cannot be enforced and are not mean to be enforced. The mere enactment of law doesn't change the desires of To the Entrop of The Sun-Sir: In those persons living in "dry" States their effort for better service the men who want the stimulation or relaxation who boss the elevated might let the derived from alcoholic beverages, so rear gate of the last car be opened, at they either order them from wet States Does prohibition make the residents but he does not open the gate. In of wet States drink more? If so, it is

out against rear end collisions. If the reform. If the people in wet territory end gate were open it would admit do not drink more because of prohibitory laws in other States, then the citizens of the nominally "dry" States must be consuming their share,

of Lewiston, Me., population 26,000, there were last year 111 illicit liquor dealers who took out Pederal licenses. These dealers do not take out a license because they want a nice chromo to hang on the wall. They want to sell liquor, and they do sell it, and this inliquor and explains why alleged prohioition doesn't diminish the production and use of liquor.

HENRY J. KALTENBACH. President New York State Wholesale Liquor Dealers Association. Naw York, December 21.

## Has Congress Changed?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SEC THE attempt to force Congress to reverse itself on the eight hour law question is founded on the assumption that ours is no longer a "deliberative" but a "deliverative" form of Government. JOHN P. DAVIN, M. D.

## HIGH POSTAL RATES ON MAGAZINES AGAINST PUBLIC INTEREST.

Proposed Legislation, It Is Asserted, Will Foster the Spirit of Sectionalism Just When There Is Special Need of National Unity.

he best efforts of its ablest statesmen

Probably no other influence has been

so potent during the half century

tween North and South and East and West as the circulation of national

that the development of these publi-cations of nationwide scope has been

United States on all printed matter.

there is not the slightest doubt.

lightly dismiss

From an editorial article in Engineering News. Since the United States first became fessions who will be affected. The nation the task that has engaged change reaches all classes of society The labor movement, for example, re-iles on national journals to reach me scattered in all parts of the country people of the spirit of national unity There are many religious publication that have a nationwide circulation The Government is spending many millions of dollars to promote education of the farmers of the country to sectional barriers and eliminating prejudices and misunderstandings beward better and more productive agriculture. What will this tax mean in heat agricultural publications? It may be said that the Government the publications to pay the cost o made possible by the law, enacted since the civil war, which fixed a uniform postal rate for the whole their transmission through the ma

regardless of their value as a means

of public education. Even on this asis the proposed zone system of rates A bill has just been introduced in Congress as a "rider" on the post office appropriation bill, which proposes to tax national journals out of act doubtless imagine that the variaexistence by placing upon all publition of the postage rates with the discations a postal rate based on the distances which they have schemed out tance of transmission, as follows: Up corresponds in some measure to the to 300 miles, 1 cent a pound; 300 to cost to the Government of transmir-600 miles, 2 cents; 600 to 1,000 miles. ting the mails. But every engineer familiar with modern transportation 1,400 to 1,800 miles, 5 cents, and over methods knows that under present day 1,800 miles, 6 cents. That this tax, if conditions the great element in the imposed, will greatly restrict the circost of carriage is not the hauling culation of truly national journals over the road, but the terminal ex-

pense. This is true of ordinary mer-A great influence has been exerted chandise, such as hardware, groceries and dry goods. Much more is it true on the national development during of mail matter, where the post office devoted to literature, to science and the arts, to the professions and the employees must handle each individua piece and read its address perhaps half Doubtless the Congressdozen times in the course men who framed this bill have no conjourney from sender to receiver. Take ception of what it will mean to sub for example a journal mailed in New stitute journals of a sectional charac-York to a subscriber in San Franter in place of the national journals isco. It is placed by the publisher that have been so important a feature in a mail bag, a car is loaded to its of American public life. full capacity with hundreds of bags It is only in the journals of national of such mail and started from Ne

York on its journey across the contipublic questions discussed from the broad point of view of the nation's pound of mail matter across the contiests of any particular locality. Surely pound of meat or fish or coffee this is too important a matter to be oranges or any other item of freight lightly passed over. Surely the unity shipped on a fast schedule. of the nation is something which those It would often involve greater exin authority at Washington may not pense to the Post Office Department to carry a copy of the same journal The second class postage question to some country town within a hundred miles distance, where it had to publications affected were the so-called

lines of railway and finally carried over a rural free delivery route. All questions as to the relative of the service, however, are traly in postage rate will mean a very heavy significant compared with the propostax on the circulation of the "proceed- tion to place a ban on the circulation ings" of the various national engineer- of national Journals. Surely, the being societies. This is only typical of sons of the European war ought not to what will take place in all professions. be wholly lost on us. In Germany, in Take the medical profession for ex- Great Britain, in France, the unper ample. How important it is in the most question is national unity. Whpublic interest that the physicians of would be thought in any of these in he country shall be informed upon the tions of a serious proposal to stop the circulation of journals of national reported in the medical journals. The scope? More than at any previous ountry doctor living west of the Mis- time in its history does the Units sissippi River may find it too great a States need to foster in every way ourden to pay an extra bill of perhaps development of a national spirit amount \$10 a year for postage on the medical its people. Every influence that tend preserve this national spirit mus It is not only the men in the pro- be fostered at any cost.

the Post Office.

pay of Federal employees certain next-

Believe me, if there are any em

I study to a private business, would

he handled over three or four different

#### THE INDIAN TONE LADDER. PAY OF PUBLIC SERVANTS How the Sauscrit Fathers' Musical A Word in Behalf of the Employees of Magic Was Brought to Europe.

trade journals, but they really cut

bring the matter home to engineers.

the change proposed in second class!

latest advances in medical science as

iournals to which he subscribes.

small figure in the

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sic: WIR ou permit a few supplementary remarks the American Federation of Labor toe to your interesting editorial article on action advocating an increase to the

"The Singers of Scales"? The seven note scale was invented in papers have attacked the proposition re-India. -The very word gamut is derived gardless of the rights or necessite from the Sanscrit grama; that is, as "fifth" (panchama), and so on. Na- look upon tola resolution as resogn not so very much ahead of what they the seven long names; notes 2, 4, 5 were and trying times. known as "ri, ma, pa."

The Persians adopted the Indian ces in the public service or on gamut, but assigned "ma" and "pa" each public service who have long hou to the next lower place. Moreover, they arranged for their convenience, and made slight phonetic changes, ri became receive poor pay, it is the post offer "re" with them, and pa became "fa." employees. Efficient men w.o. if the Hence "re, ml, fa" are Persian names of had given the same amount of time outes 2, 3, 4 in the tone ladder.

The Indo-Iranian scale then migrated recuiving 100 per cent, higher to the medbeval Arabs, who were pro- struggle along on the inconcer ald, a fusely gifted in every art and science. Day allowed by the post offin the beginning of the eleventh century remember, men in the public sert Clude, the maestro of musical Acezzo, have their needs and neces thes introduced the Eastern scale to Europe, receive few of the privileges acwhere the old Sanscrit monosyllables, the employees of private concerns with slight alterations, are still in use fact, they are bound by all kinds of and whence "ut, re, mt, fa, sol, lo, sin strictions to such an extent that it wandered to muste loving America. Ilx a problem how to keep good men in oriente lux! Enngst P. Honkwitz. Service. The best men are general

#### SURMARINE DEFENCE A Proposal for an American Fleet of Undersea Boats.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The ditorial article in THE SUN "The Submarine Line of American Defence" i the same issue that contains General Scott's declaration that an army of 3,000,000 trained men is required successfully to repel invasion of the United States is the most sensible, practical of an ordinance prohibiting the inand economical proposal for effective duction of our national anthem 447-4 preparedness so far advocated by any the last part of an act so as to get prominent journal.

To go a little further, the following naval programme is suggested in order is high time that our public was brougto invite discussion: Abandon building to realize that we have national idea of surface warships, except perhaps to to live up to. "The Star Spangled Han keep up present strength of the battle ner" should be reserved for state marines to the number of 400, of say enthusiasm and to make the blood su't twenty-five to thirty knots of maximum in the breasts of the real Americans speed, 1,200 miles radius, crew twelve who have not reached that weakened men, Then establish seven Atlantic and effeminate state in which men three Pacific bases, with necessary proud to fight. tenders and aerial and surface scouts. Cost need not exceed \$150,000,000.

Naval authorities will certainly admit that such a fleet would effectually dicates that there is a demand for prevent a landing of hostile forces on our own coasts and adjoining coasts within striking distance. They will probably deny the possibility of building such vessels at any price, basing this conclusion on present types of construction and propulsion; but it can be BROOKLYN, December 21. R. A. E.

Three Singes of War

Preparation.

The Method. Va write a Christmas steer On anything slive Take may tale and date it

Should it Be Protected From Theatrical Exploitation? To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-S. noticed in THE SUN that the Board Aldermen was considering the passage

those who, on amount of their families

themselves in the position of not being

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

and others dependent on them.

able to make changes when they

New York, December 21.

to do so.

"big hand." This is a most excellent measure Build small non-sinkable sub- sions, to be played to inspire patric

> NEW YORK, December 21 Knew When to Quit.

From the Marion Sta Stephen Bass, a local minute speak three long, lean, weary years on the st signment at Socastee, and his "salate that time was \$40 cash, a dozen bree coon hides and a race Then he went to "conference" and wh the new year the name of the Rev. Stephen Bass followed that of the name Socastee charge. The Rev. Stephen the floor: "I leaves dis conference and now. I can't preach tion's word

soon skins and malarva." And he ro Ransas Again the Model

We cite as an example of straint the case of the student of Y College who, after considering a